

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 16, and 17. Claims 3-5, 8-15, and 18 were previously presented. Claims 1 and 3-18 are presented for further examination.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 5, 8, 10-15, and 18 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,729,694 (Huntington). Claim 9 was rejected as being unpatentable over Huntington. Claims 4 and 7 were rejected as being unpatentable over Huntington in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,451,914 (Stengel). Claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, and 15 were rejected as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,407,647 (Apel). Claims 4, 7, 11, 12, and 18 were rejected as being unpatentable over Apel in view of Stengel.

As shown above, Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the features of claim 2, which was identified by the Examiner as containing allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicant submits that claim 1, as amended, is allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 2. Each of claims 4, 5, 7-15 and 18 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

Applicant has also amended claims 6, 16, and 17, each of which was identified by the Examiner as containing allowable subject matter, placing each in independent form including all the features of their respective base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 2 and 3 depend claims 6, and 16, respectively, and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

In view of these amendments, withdrawal of the art rejections is respectfully requested.

Each of the dependent claims is believed to define patentable features of the invention. Each dependent claim partakes of the novelty of its corresponding independent claim, in light of the foregoing amendments, and, as such, has not been discussed specifically herein.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or

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other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Please charge any additional fees, not already covered by check, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 14219-114US1.

Respectfully submitted,

April 25, 2008

/Paul Pysher/

Date: _____

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